



ABSTRACT AND BIOGRAPHY

Does a Good Engineer Make a Good Project Manager

How many times have you found yourself saying or heard someone say “**That person should not be the Program/Project Manager**”! Why is it said or why do you say it? What do you notice about that person, which leads you to believe this? Again, you might find yourself saying or hear it said, “**They were a great engineering, they sure have changed**”!

Some other questions you might say or hear other saying: “Why does senior management believe that good engineers will make good managers?”; “Why didn’t this person get any management training?”; “Just because he/she was a good engineer, why do they think they will be a good manager?”

I believe the myth is that good engineers make good managers. There are two main type of engineers and two main types of managers, the detailed oriented/designer and the systems type.

We can also throw the engineering disciplines into the fray as well. This, to some aspect, complicates the “.....becomes a good manager” to some extent as well, i.e., how much of any program/project consists of each discipline, percentage wise and how involved in the program/project was that engineering during the life cycle. Then there is the make up of male/female, the physiological aspects of our backgrounds, natural abilities and training.

This presentation is intended to inform and educate the attendees why the myth is just that – not all good engineers are good managers, nor become good managers.

George Andrew
President
GNA Aerospace Consulting Group

Mr. Andrew has 30 years of experience relating to Spacecraft and Launch Vehicle Avionics design, manufacturing, testing, launch, Mission and Chief Systems Engineering, and Program/Project Management experience. Mr. Andrew is currently supporting the GOES-R Program in the Program Systems Engineering office.

Mr. Andrew has consulted with start-up launch vehicle and spacecraft companies, managing the Flight and Ground hardware/software design, development, test, and launch.

Mr. Andrew has been the program/project manager for several Spacecraft program contracts and the Avionics Department Manager for two start-up Launch Vehicles.

Mr. Andrew is an Associate Fellow within the AIAA.